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Subsidy Plan Action Makes Arends Mad

Cong. L. C. Arends of Melvin is "mad" because of the "insolent and contemptuous manner in which Secretary of Agriculture Freeman and the House Democratic leadership are forcing" the certificate wheat and cotton subsidy plans through Congress.

He reports that reaction in his weekly newsletter. "The arbitrary gag procedure they are following is an affront to the farmers, an insult to the House of Representatives and a travesty of the whole legislative process," he asserts.

The 17th District representative reports that the House Rules Committee "yielded to administration pressure and reported out a rule which, in essence, provides that after one hour of debate, the House accepts the wheat bill that the Senate adopted as an amendment to the House-passed cotton bill."

'Rubber Stamp'

"The House is to rubber stamp what the Senate does without House members knowing exactly what was agreed to," since the wheat bill has not been considered by a House committee or the House, Arends explains.

Although he opposes the cotton and wheat bills, Arends believes that a congressman favoring both measures, "as a responsible member of the House" should "vote against the gag rule."

"Our hope is that on this procedural question alone, if for no other reason, the House will vote down this vicious rule. The integrity of the House and the legislative process is in issue."

"We cannot but believe that a majority of the members will courageously meet that issue, notwithstanding the extreme pressure being applied . . . to have members of Congress abdicate their legislative responsibilities."

Defends CIA

Although it may be difficult to understand "the parliamentary technicalities," Arends thinks "the average person will fully appreciate there is something wrong with a proposition when those in control use such extraordinary procedures and pressures."

After deciding that some of the "misrepresentations" heard in criticism of the Central Intelligence Agency, "should be answered," Arends last week obtained a special order from the House to discuss this whole matter on the floor.

"Let it be known that the CIA is not a wheeling and dealing foreign policy-making agency that its critics would have the people believe."

The representative offers the defense as one who has some knowledge of the agency acquired as a member of the Armed Services Committee subcommittee on the CIA. He explains that the CIA has not been able to answer criticism because it operates "in the cloak of secrecy."

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